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**Medical Law and Ethics of Professional Responsibilities**

2. The case reveals some facts regarding the office procedure, check and balance on the performance of the physicians and code of ethics. Previous report indicates that the patient was diagnosed with the disease earlier, however, treatment was not started and patient was prescribed antibiotic only. The carelessness of the physician resulted in the bad health condition of the patient. Physician broke the following code of ethics by not examining the report carefully.

* **Preamble:** because the doctor acquires knowledge and expertise where patient trust them which increased the responsibility of the doctor to treat the patient with care.
* **Patient care:** As the doctor did not consider the well-being of the patient first. He either did not read the report carefully or avoid the required treatment because of some other issue which broke the code of ethics related to the relationship between the doctor and the patient.
* **Professional conduct:** The way doctor treated the patient shows the non-professionalism. It is the responsibility of the doctor to practice medicine by using the best of his ability and hard work.

The doctor broke the above code of ethics. He failed to maintain the state of professionalism and he also failed to develop productive communication skill with the patient. The patient was unaware of his condition and trusted the doctor. The doctor prescribed him antibiotic only and neglected the main concern that was the issue of lung nodule which can be resulted in cancer. It was totally unfair and unethical not to carry the responsibility with care and according to the standard of the profession.

3. The case indicates the irresponsibility and unprofessionalism of the doctor. Dr. Edward treated the patient professionally. He not only examines the patient with the help of chest x-ray and blood test but also considered his medical history. He tried to gain the history of the disease and the condition of the patient from his first visit. On the other side his colleague took the test however did not examine the patient properly. The issue of the patient was diagnosed eleven months while first visit to the office which means doctors had enough time to treat the patient and provide medication for the prevention of cancer. In addition, no follow-up appointment and treatment made the patient's condition worse. CT scan shows the confirmation of cancer at the late stage and terminal. If the patient came to know about the case that physician mistreated him then it will be dangerous for the reputation of the organization and the career of the physician. Above all these facts the life of the person is the most important thing but as the physician broke the code of ethics which brings the life of the patient in danger. As the stage of the cancer is not confirmed, therefore, some quick recommendations are required to avoid further delay about patient's treatment.

4. Dr. Edward has the responsibility now to give the best treatment to the patient as his colleague is on medical leaves. It will be unethical to wait for the colleague as he was responsible for the present condition of the patient. Therefore, whatever is the best for the patient's health condition, has to be done by Dr. Edward. First, Dr. Edward should prescribe the test to the patient to confirm the stage of cancer. This is because each stage of cancer has its own complications and medicine should be started according to that only. Second, the doctor had to communicate with the patient. It is a code of ethics as well as an important component of the treatment as the patient should know about his present condition so he can do self-care to avoid further health problem. Third, the patient should be admitted to the clinic. This is important to assess the patient. The proper report can help to examine the changes in health and other undiscussed issues that the doctor still do not about. Last, the doctor should make the meeting with the family members of the patient. It is necessary that the family of the patient should be aware of the health condition and can help the patients to fight with the issue.

5. After reading the scenario, the primary issue that is highlighted in the case includes the code of ethics, disclosure, office procedures, patient trust, and legal risk. Physician broke the various code of ethics including preamble, patient care, professional conduct, the responsibility to society, health standards, quality and safety, and inefficient communication with the patient. The doctor hides the report result from the patient and it was the coincidence that the patient was treated from another physician otherwise disclosure of the physician mistake was not possible. Dr. Edward examines the previous report which became the reason for disclosure. The mistake of the physician indicates the office procedure. Office shows the lack of healthcare quality, however the record of the patient indicating the positive side of the office that even after the eleven-month record of the patient was save which identifies the issue of the patient rapidly. Physician broke the trust of the patient. Whenever the patient visits the physician he put his trust on the physician that he will guide him and provide him the best healthcare treatment. However, negligence of previous abnormal scan is proof of breaking the patient's trust. The mistake of the physician is not only dangerous for the patient health but it is equally risky for the office. This is because if the patient came to know about the physician mistake, he can file the case against the physician and the office. In the end, it will be harmful to the reputation of the organization and the profession of the physician.